

**RESOLUTION NO. 15-905**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama are apprised that New Life Seventh-Day Adventist Church will celebrate its Grand Opening to be held December 5-6, 2015; and,

**WHEREAS**, in the spring of 1983, Pastor S.J. Jackson and the members of First Seventh-day Adventist Church held an evangelistic crusade. Evangelist Oscar Lane brought to life Bible truths with clarity. His delivery was dynamic and left those in attendance anxious to return night after night to hear the messages of hope. Hundreds were converted and many were re-dedicated. Baptisms were held weekly. More and more souls were added to the church "without a name"; and,

**WHEREAS**, after weeks of evangelism, it was apparent that First Church could not accommodate the spirit-filled vast number of members. Thus, New Life Church emerged and was organized. The first officers were Elder S. J. Jackson, Pastor; Elder Washington Johnson, Associate Pastor; Don McPhaul, First Elder; Roosevelt Woodard, Head Deacon; Mary Ramey, Head Deaconess; Lillian Woodard, Sabbath School Superintendent; and Judy Wright, Clerk; and,

**WHEREAS**, the New Life Church family found a home in the old Fred's Store on Jordan Lane. On Friday evenings more than 100 voices worked diligently to learn songs with David Rugless as the first Minister of Music and Derrick Ramey, Sr. as Director. New Life Community Choir ministry began as persons from all walks of life were a part, which helped begin the legacy of the "New Life Worship Experience;" and,

**WHEREAS**, in January of 1984, the church relocated to the vacant First Baptist Church on Church Street downtown for a couple of months and then in March 1984, New Life began Wednesday night prayer meeting services at the Meadow Hills Baptist Church, 4906 Blue Spring Road, which was eventually purchased as its home; and,

**WHEREAS**, several leaders have served the New Life congregation over the years since the first Pastor S.J. Jackson in 1983. Morris Patterson served in 1984 to develop this new church. Dr. E. E. Rogers continued pastoring in 1986 with Pastor Sargent Simms following in 1988. Joe I. Grider pastored in 1991, and under his leadership the members were able to purchase a new roof and celebrate "Burning of the Mortgage!" James Young was the next pastor in 1994. H. L. Cleveland pastored in 1996 sharing his administrative skills equipping, coaching, and encouraging members to be leaders with a vision and utilizing their gifts. Pastor Harold Goodloe pastored the longest starting 2002 and assisted members in aggressively fundraising \$400,000 in a Capital Stewardship Campaign. The church remodeled the sanctuary as they prepared to expand ministries at another site. New Life participated in a city-wide evangelistic campaign as the War Eagle Pathfinders and Drum Corp received extensive visibility as they performed throughout the South Central Conference and the City of Huntsville; and,

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**December 3, 2015**

**WHEREAS**, current Pastor, Michael Ross, Sr., began to serve in 2012. The church began to transform into a "House of Prayer," which was the theme for 2015. Members engaged in an evangelism series, initiated an after school program, expanded the men's and women's ministry programs; as well as, continued to strengthen the youth and children's programs and other ministries. Members participated in sacrificial giving and raised over \$130,000 over the past year to secure the new facility. God answered ongoing prayers by providing miracle after miracle including selling our old church at the same time as blessing the congregation with over \$800,000 discount on the new facility. Pastor Ross, along with members' sacrificial giving and prayers, has culminated a long history of building projects to bring the New Life Seventh-Day Adventist Church to the Grand Opening of the new facility.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, gratefully acknowledge, congratulate, and extend best wishes to New Life Seventh-Day Adventist Church in recognition of its Grand Opening Celebration. May you have continued success in all future endeavors.

**ADOPTED** on this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of **December**, 2015.

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President of the City Council of  
the City of Huntsville, Alabama

**APPROVED** on this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of **December**, 2015.

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Mayor of the City of Huntsville,  
Alabama